ERG MOUNTAIN PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:

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Date: March 18/03

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Date:

105-01280/

ERG MOUNTAIN PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

This 1,011-hectare park protects a transition from the valley slopes in the Upper Fraser Trench to the subalpine/alpine at the top of Erg Mountain. Erg Mountain has historically been a hiking destination, and offers an excellent viewpoint of the Upper Fraser Valley and surrounding mountains. Extensive alpine ridge-top hiking outside of the park is accessible from the peak of Erg Mountain.

The park includes an area that was, at one time, recommended for ecological reserve designation to protect old growth forest habitat.

Primary Role
The primary role is to protect a backcountry trail providing challenging and outstanding hiking opportunities leading from the valley bottom to the alpine. The trail boasts a 1,460 m (4,980 feet) elevation gain and offers spectacular views of the Cariboo Range to the west and south, and Mount Sir Alexander in Kakwa Provincial Park to the north. A lovely alpine area can be enjoyed by those wishing to forgo the last 270 m to the summit.

Secondary Role
The secondary role is to protect a representative old growth ecosystem in the Interior Cedar Hemlock zone in the lower elevations of the park.

Known Management Issues	Response
Backcountry management	Boundary marking and signing. Monitor for impact. Implement BRIM if necessary.
Hunting, horse use and pack animals, snowmobiling, mechanized activities (mountain bikes), motorized water activities.	These activities were deferred at the Prince George LRMP to a future park planning process. In the interim, the following use is proposed as acceptable: • Hunting
Public safety	• Investigate possibilities of providing foot bridge passage across Ptarmigan Creek. • Provide signing to advise how to travel safely in grizzly country.

Zoning

The entire park (1,011 hectares) is zoned Natural Environment (protection of scenic values and provision of backcountry recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment).

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection

Caribou Mountains (CAM). 37.78% of this ecosection is protected; Erg Mountain's contribution is minimal (contributes only 0.19% of the overall representation of this ecosection).

- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

ESSFwk1 – 13.58% protected; Erg Mountain's contribution is minimal as it contributes only 0.57% of the overall representation of this unit in the protected areas system

ICHwk3 – 13.83% protected; Erg Mountain is one of only 3 areas contributing to the representation of this ecosystem; Erg Mountain's contribution is minimal however (contributes only 2.89% of the overall representation of this ecosystem)

Special Feature	X	a representative old growth ecosystem in the Interior Cedar Hemlock zone
Rare/Endangered Values		Unknown
Scientific/Research Opportunities	X	Study of old growth ecosystems

RECREATION

Representation:

- backcountry
- destination
- travel corridor
- local recreation

	X	A steep, challenging trail leading to the alpine. The 7.5 km trail gains almost 1,500 m (5,000 feet) in elevation.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Not known

Special Feature		Not known

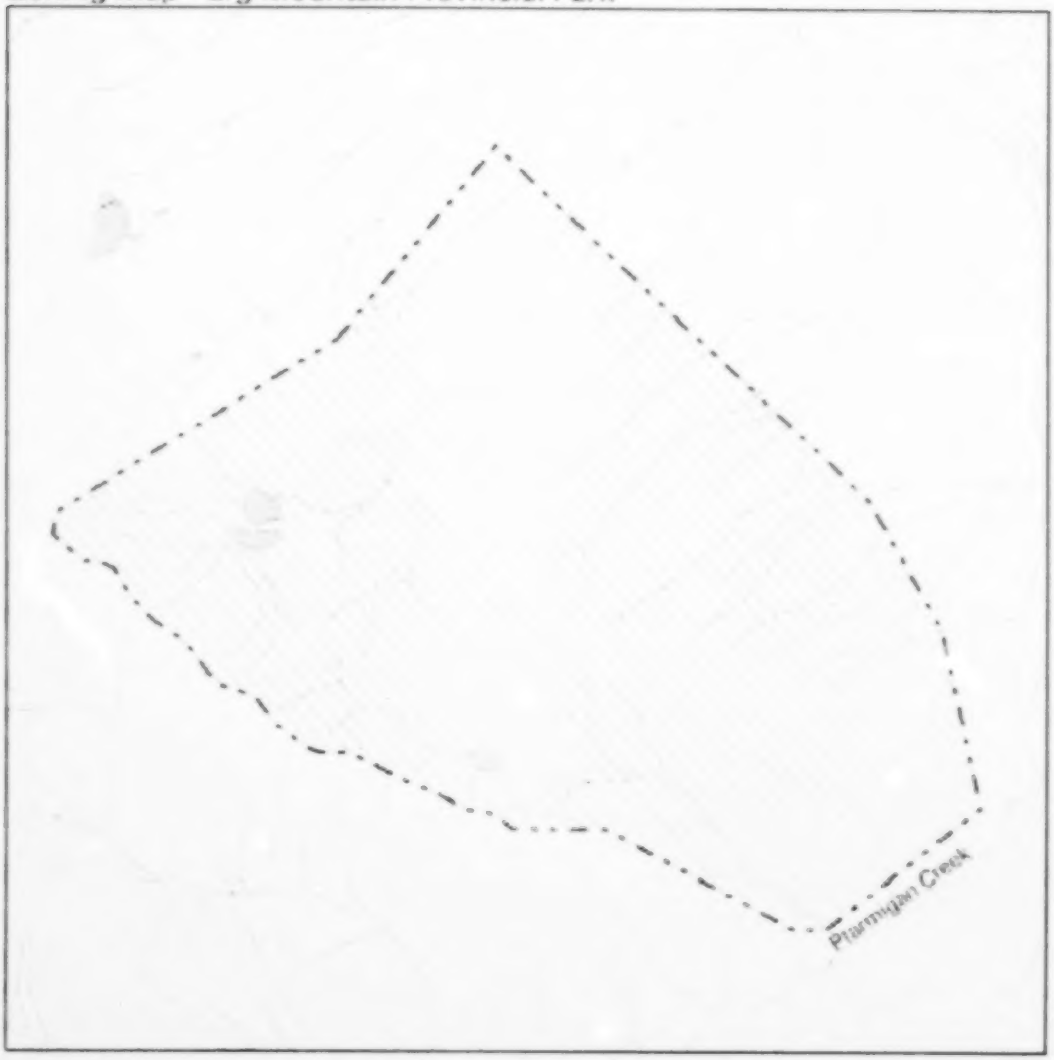
OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations		
Relationship to Other PAs	X	Evanoff, Close-to-the-Edge, Ptarmigan, Slim Creek, Sugarbowl Grizzly and West Twin are all located within close proximity to Erg Mountain.
Co-operative Management Arrangements		
Partnerships		
Vulnerability		
Relationship to Other Strategies	X	Erg Mountain was established through the Prince George LRMP. The Conservation Risk Assessment Process identified 2 risk factors (the shape and the size of the park) for the park and rated them as highly significant. One stressor/threat was identified for the park: new trail which was rated with low significance.

Area: 1,011 ha

Date of establishment: June 29, 2000

Zoning Map - Erg Mountain Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

Natural Environment
Protected Area Boundary

Produced in Mar 2003 by
Ministry of Water, Land and Air
Protection by MSRM, Decision
Support Services

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